

May 10, 2000

## IMPORTANT POWTS PLAN REVIEW INFORMATION

Hopefully, everyone that is active in the private sewage program (POWTS) in WI is aware that the revised Comm 83 code package is scheduled to go into affect on July 01, 2000. With the implementation of this code package a number of procedural issues must be addressed. *[Note: This information is provided under the assumption that the code will be implemented as planned on July 01, 2000. A threatened lawsuit may result in a delay.]*

According to s. 145.135, Wis. Stats., the approval of a sanitary permit is based on the regulations in force on the date of Sanitary Permit approval. Therefore, if you have received approval for a POWTS plan on or before June 30, 2000, and you are concerned that the POWTS design may not comply with some of the requirements in the revised code, you must obtain the Sanitary Permit for that plan prior to July 01, 2000. Obviously, it will be difficult if not impossible to obtain a Sanitary Permit from the county if you wait until the last day or two of June. We anticipate that there may be a rush of plans submitted at the last minute. Our plan review capacity is limited, so please plan accordingly and have your POWTS plan approved and Sanitary Permit application submitted to the county well in advance of June 30, 2000. Plans, which are received during the last week of June, might not be reviewed until after July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The same statutory reference cited above applies to renewal of Sanitary Permits. Any Sanitary Permits renewed prior to July 01, 2000, can be renewed under the current code and would remain valid for a period of two years from the date of renewal. Any permits renewed on or after July 01, 2000, will have to be renewed under the provisions of the revised code.

We will begin to accept plans designed under the revised code on June 26<sup>th</sup>. It is suggested that you print clearly on the top of the review application that the plans are to be reviewed under the revised code. Otherwise, the plans will be reviewed in accordance with the code in affect at the time they are processed and either denied or put on hold if they don't meet code requirements. Plans will continue to be reviewed in order of receipt with priority given to plans submitted under the current code until July 1<sup>st</sup>. Plans reviewed after July 1<sup>st</sup> must comply with the revised code. Incomplete applications or submittals with an older version of an application form will be put at the end of the line and processed as time permits.

Reports indicate that each office has many POWTS plans "on hold" waiting for additional information. If you have any POWTS plans that are on hold, you should consider providing the requested information as soon as possible. Plans that are still awaiting additional information after June 30<sup>th</sup> may not be approvable under the revised code. These types of plans may be closed out and returned. At that point your only alternative will be to submit new plans along with another applicable review fee.

If you have any questions regarding the way POWTS plans will be processed during the transition period from the existing code to the revised code, please feel free to contact Brad Johnson, Integrated Services Section Chief, at (920) 492-5605 or (715) 524-6853, email [bjohnson@commerce.state.wi.us](mailto:bjohnson@commerce.state.wi.us). Also check our web page at <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-Contacts.html> for future updates